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       SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
       COUNTY OF SUFFOLK: PART 48
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       IN RE: OPIOID LITIGATION
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                               INDEX NO.: 400000/2017
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                               July 12, 2021
 9
                               Central Islip, New York
10
                  MINUTES OF TRIAL
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       BEFORE:
                         HON. JERRY GARGUILO
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                          Supreme Court Justice
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                STEPHANIE CASAGRANDE HAGUE, CSR, RPR
                          SR. COURT REPORTER
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1	In Re: Opioid Trial 5
2	THE CLERK: Supreme Court is now in
3	session. The Honorable Jerry Garguilo
4	presiding.
5	Good morning, your Honor.
6	THE COURT: Good morning everybody.
7	Good morning. Please be seated.
8	THE CLERK: This is continuing trial In
9	Re: Opioid Litigation. Jury is not present.
10	So yesterday I'm looking at my email 5
11	p.m. goes by, nothing; 6 p.m. goes by,
12	nothing; 7 p.m., I'm doing good. 8 p.m. I'm
13	watching Shark Week, that was almost appro
14	po. Nine o'clock, now I'm giving one of
15	these, right. Then 9:20, boom, the phone
16	goes off. And you folks, some of you
17	continue to submit after the midnight hour.
18	I need some help. I spent sometime this
19	weekend, for instance, on the Day, D-A-Y,
20	transcripts, and we also spent sometime on
21	the one, actually, I think it's Pyfer.
22	Oh, Brennan, excuse me. I did Day
23	myself, of course, and I asked for the
24	assistance of my law secretary, Miss Galteri,
25	in connection with Brennan.

I'm aware of the issue that was brought up by Mr. Oleske on Friday. I'm trying to look for a method that makes it manageable for the Court to inform you as to what the Court's rulings are on the contested portions of each deposition. And, Mr. Oleske, as I understand it, the only assistance, as far as your research in the case, the only assistance, and if I'm wrong you'll tell me, that the Court can reach out for is with a "judicial employee." MR. OLESKE: Yes, your Honor. Including the law department. So I think THE COURT: According to research, I can access the law department? MR. OLESKE: The direction from the case law is, in fact, that's what a reverse saying, the Court should have relied on the law department. THE COURT: It should? MR. OLESKE: Yes. THE COURT: So, in other words, if I engage the assistance of the law department, we're okay.	1	In Re: Opioid Trial 6
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23 THE COURT: So, in other words, if I 24 engage the assistance of the law department,	21	THE COURT: It should?
engage the assistance of the law department,	22	MR. OLESKE: Yes.
	23	THE COURT: So, in other words, if I
we're okay.	24	engage the assistance of the law department,
	25	we're okay.

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 7
2	MR. OLESKE: That's what the case law
3	suggests, your Honor, yes.
4	THE COURT: All of you feel the same
5	way? I don't see anybody saying no.
6	MR. PRESNAL: Well, Judge
7	THE COURT: Understand something,
8	nothing leaves my desk. Nothing leaves my
9	desk without an intensely careful review
10	SO
11	MR. PRESNAL: Judge, we did a little bit
12	of research over the weekend, and I do think
13	that you could appoint referees to hear and
14	report on these issues, which is what I think
15	you have in mind. In other words, not to
16	make direct rulings, but to make
17	recommendations to you.
18	We're still discussing that issue with
19	the Defendants, and we're not all on the same
20	page, although I do think that we, in general
21	terms, see it the same way.
22	THE COURT: If by the end of the day you
23	can tell me if there's any consensus, of
24	course, I'll hear it.
25	MR. PRESNAL: There may be some

8 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 procedural requirements of doing it via the 3 hear and report method that have to be done, but that seems to be what the options --4 5 THE COURT: You mention job title of 6 people in the law department, the court 7 attorney referee, that's their actual job 8 title. 9 Okay, next step. I spent some time 10 reviewing the past short form orders of this 11 Court in connection with many of the issues 12 that I anticipate hearing this morning. Oh, by the way, does anybody know what 13 14 July 17th is -- excuse me, June 17th is? 15 think it's the anniversary, I think it's the 16 date that I got the assignment from the 17 coordinating panel. I'll serve cupcakes, 18 something. 19 Now, go back to June 18th, 2018, motion 20 sequence 001 through 0019, which was 21 originally -- which was -- it was an 22 all-encompassing motion to dismiss. The part 23 and parcel of it was Endo's petition to 24 dismiss for referencing the AOD. As you 25 know, that motion was denied.

In Re: Opioid Trial

At page 16 in this Court's short form order I noted the following -- and, by the way, I raise this because it was also raised in the motions in limine that were submitted prior to the commencement of trial.

At page -- again, at page 16, Endo's argument pursuant to CPLR 3211(a)(5) that the Plaintiffs' claims against it are barred by an assurance of discontinuance executed on March 16th -- excuse me -- March 2016 concerning its marketing Opana ER, its branded version of the semi-synthetic opioid analgesic Oxymorphone, is rejected.

On page 17 the Court goes on to note:

In addition, the assurance states that

nothing contained herein shall be construed

to deprive any member or other person or

entity of any private right under law or

equity, and that it does not limit in any way

the Attorney General's power to take actions

against Endo for either noncompliance with

its terms or noncompliance with any

applicable order as to "with respect to any

matters that are not part of the covered

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10 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 conduct." We do know, of course, the subject 3 matter of the AOD was Opana, and there was again a cutoff date of 2016. 4 The Court further notes on the page 18: 5 6 Moreover, the March -- moreover, the March 7 2016 assurance of discontinuance does not 8 immunize Endo from civil actions for 9 subsequent fraudulent activities within New 10 York or bar the counties from bringing law or 11 equity claims against it for practices within 12 their respective jurisdictions. Now, keep in mind, that motion way back 13 when, that's sequence 001, did not involve 14 the State. It was -- at that point the only 15 16 Plaintiffs participating were all the 17 Counties. 18 At motion sequence 064, the Court made 19 additional findings, again, as concerns the 20 AOD issues, at page 3: In addition, the

additional findings, again, as concerns the AOD issues, at page 3: In addition, the assurance of discontinuance states that, again, nothing contained herein shall be construed to deprive any member or person or entity of any private right under law or equity. Again, that was, of course, noted in

In Re: Opioid Trial 11

the early decision. And it does not limit in any way the Attorney General's powers to take actions against the moving Defendants for either noncompliance with its terms or noncompliance with any of the applicable law.

Then it notes: With respect to any

Then it notes: With respect to any matters that are not part of the covered conduct, significantly, the moving Defendants neither admitted or denied the Attorney General's various findings of unlawful practices, statements or omissions under the General Business Law 349 and 350 regarding the marketing of Opana.

On the same page it notes: The March 2016 assurance of discontinuance does not bar the various claims asserted against the moving Defendants by the Attorney General in the instant action. While the assurance of discontinuance is an enforceable contract between the Attorney General and the moving Defendants, the purpose of such agreement was to resolve, without formal litigation, the claims that the moving Defendants engaged in deceptive consumer practices in violation of

12 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 General Business Law 349 and 350 in the 3 marketing of Opana. Then at motion sequence 163, once again, 4 the AOD issue comes up, including today it's 5 the sixth time we've heard about it. 6 7 The Court notes at page 2: The 8 Defendants argue that they are entitled to an 9 order barring the State of New York from 10 predicating this public nuisance claims on 11 evidence related to their marketing of Opana 12 ER during the period prior to 2016 and on evidence related to their unbranded marketing 13 of prescription opioids in general. 14 Again, I think there's a Stipulation in 15 16 the motions in limine that the State will not 17 go into Opana marketing prior to the 18 effective date of the AOD. 19 Then this decision at page 2 goes on to 20 note the following: In any event, the 21 Defendants failed to demonstrate a prima 22 facie case that the March 2016 agreement with 23 the Attorney General extended to their 24 marketing and supply of prescription opioids, 25 other than Opana. Fundamental principle of

13 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 contract interpretation is that an agreement 3 should be construed in accordance with parties' intent. The best evidence of what 4 the parties -- the best evidence of what the 5 6 parties' Agreement intends what they say in 7 their writing. In a written agreement that 8 is complete, clear and unambiguous on its 9 face must be enforced according to its 10 planned meaning. 11 Then at page 3: The Defendants failed 12 to make a prima facie case that the term covered conduct in the assurance of 13 14 discontinuance must be interpreted as 15 including the promotion and marketing of 16 Opana ER and other prescription opioids 17 performed by third parties. 18 Instead, the language shows that the 19 Attorney General's inquiry was directed at 20 the Defendants' own statements, misstatements 21 and omissions about Opana ER, particularly 22 those made in printed materials posted on 23 their public website and conveyed to their 24 sales representatives to health providers,

and that it concluded their marketing

14 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 practice, statements and omissions regarding 3 that prior violated General Business Law 349 4 and 350. 5 Then again at motion sequence 236, 6 again, the AOD issue came up. In connection 7 with a petition seeking severance, the Court noted any potential prejudice to Endo flowing 8 9 from the AOD is better dealt with a careful 10 -- with careful instructions to the jury 11 rather than trying the case three times, 12 which was suggested in the petition, so three 13 trials involving Endo. There was a presumption that jurors will 14 15 obey a judge's limiting instructions, see 16 Robert A. Baker and Vincent Alexander 17 evidence in New York State and federal courts 18 Section 1-19, second edition. 19 Then you go through the rulings of this Court in connection with the form motions in 20 21 limine, go to page 7, one-third down the 22 page: Defendant Endo's motion in limine 23 regarding its assurance of discontinuance 24 with the State, the ruling, the Court will

abide by its short form orders as concerns

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 15
2	the AOD.
3	That's a history of the litigation
4	involving the AOD. It seems to the Court
5	that, and I believe it's been stipulated,
6	that as the AOD or anything in it reflects on
7	the marketing of Opana prior to the up to
8	the date of the AOD is out of bounds, but any
9	other products are, in fact, not barred by
10	the language of the assurance of
11	discontinuance.
12	MR. REISMAN: Your Honor, if I may?
13	THE COURT: Is it Reisman or Reisman
14	(pronouncing)?
15	MR. REISMAN: If I may just interject
16	for a moment.
17	THE COURT: I beg your pardon?
18	MR. REISMAN: If I may just interject
19	for a moment. Michael Reisman from the
20	Attorney General's office for the State of
21	New York.
22	In fact, there is no your Honor
23	referred just now to a Stipulation. I am not
24	aware of any such Stipulation. There is a
25	the AOD is a document, of course, that the

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 16
2	Court has considered, but with respect to the
3	issues at hand, the State late last night,
4	apologies for the lateness, about 11:30,
5	filed the letter with the Court attempting to
6	delineate these issues, and the issue is that
7	the AOD, as your Honor has observed, and as
8	Endo's counsel has observed, relates to
9	marketing of Opana ER. That evidence, as
10	your Honor knows, may come in still if it
11	addresses other issues, such as Endo's use of
12	front groups and KOLs, third passage
13	THE COURT: The third part involving as
14	per this Court's prior short form orders is
15	allowable.
16	MR. REISMAN: Okay.
17	THE COURT: If that's what you're
18	saying. It specifically says that in the
19	Court's prior determinations.
20	MR. REISMAN: Yes, your Honor.
21	In our letter last night we explained
22	that because this is a public nuisance
23	action, evidence concerning Endo's knowledge
24	of abuse and diversion, including its
25	knowledge gained through marketing and

17 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 research and so on regarding Opana ER, is 3 within bounds. It is within bounds because, as your Honor saw in the letter, after March 4 5 1st of 2016, the FDA asked Endo, in a very 6 extraordinary situation, to withdraw, 7 reformulate Opana ER from the market due to 8 the risks of abuse. And then ultimately Endo did that, and Opana ER, the reformulated 9 10 version, was pulled from the market and, ultimately, the FDA withdrew its approval. 11 12 So our position is that the events post March 1st 2016 call into question: What did 13 Endo know and when did they know it about the 14 abuse and diversion of Opana ER? 15 16 And just one final point I would make, 17 your Honor, and apologies if I was not clear 18 about this on Friday, the AOD specifically 19 concerns Opana ER. It does not concern Opana 20 immediate release or Opana IR. 21 The Oxymorphone document that your Honor 22 considered on Friday refers generally to 23 Oxymorphone. It does not refer specifically 24 to Opana ER or Opana IR. So that is another 25 key distinction as we made in the letter that

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 18
2	was filed last night.
3	MR. SOLOW: Andrew Solow for the Endo
4	Defendants.
5	THE COURT: Good morning, Mr. Solow.
6	MR. SOLOW: Your Honor, we don't
7	disagree with your Honor's recitation of the
8	history of the AOD motions, and I acknowledge
9	there have been several of them.
10	If I could, your Honor, to simplify
11	things moving forward. Your Honor's rulings
12	were as stated. If we could just have a
13	continuing objection on our position, as your
14	Honor knows, we have now up in front of the
15	Appellate Division on issues that your Honor
16	has ruled are outside the AOD, that could
17	certainly streamline things. That's my first
18	request, your Honor.
19	THE COURT: The answer is yes,
20	continuing objection continuing exception
21	noted.
22	MR. SOLOW: Thank you, your Honor.
23	So turning then, your Honor, to the
24	issue at hand is what appears to be a
25	disagreement about the scope of marketing

19 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 that is covered conduct. As your Honor knows, you asked on Friday 3 for us to provide you a history in a 4 submission to Miss Liccardi. I sent that 5 email last night, I believe before the Shark 6 7 Week viewing. 8 Your Honor, I call your specific 9 attention to the covered conduct paragraphs of the AOD, paragraphs 11 through 35. 10 11 So while your Honor's short form orders 12 refer, respectfully, in the shorthand to 13 marketing, if you review those paragraphs of the covered conduct, there are quite a bit of 14 subsections within there. And I'll just read 15 16 those titles for the record, your Honor. 17 There is covered within "Covered Conduct," 18 the crush-resistance of reformulated Opana 19 The addictiveness of Opana. Certain 20 statements distinguishing Opana ER from 21 OxyContin. Certain statements that suggest 22 you can achieve higher functions from Opana 23 ER. Statements and omissions related to 24 Opana ER studies. Detail of problem New York 25 healthcare providers by certain Endo sales

20 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 representatives in connection with the 3 promotion of Opana ER. Marketing statements 4 directed to healthcare providers and 5 patients. So, your Honor, our position, within the 6 7 scope of your Honor's short form orders, is 8 that there is quite an extensive amount of 9 "covered conduct" covered by the AOD. And 10 all we are asking for, your Honor, consistent 11 with what your Honor ruled on Friday, is those items are out of bounds for the 12 13 Attorney General. I did read Mr. Reisman's letter last 14 15 night after at 10 to 12 and, your Honor, 16 that's the issue. It appears to us there is 17 an attempt at overreaching. Again, it 18 harkens back to this concept of 19 Courtwright -- Dr. Courtwright. That even 20 though they seem to on one side be saying, 21 yes, we acknowledge the marketing prior to 22 March 2016 is out, they then say, but we're 23 allowed to actually put that evidence in to 24 support other claims about conduct that 25 happened after 2017.

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 21
2	Your Honor, our position is that is a
3	clear violation and out of bounds.
4	THE COURT: How about I'm willing to
5	read to the jury that portion of the AOD?
6	MR. SOLOW: Well, your Honor, if I may.
7	That's why I referred your Honor to the
8	motion in limine, not to reargue the motion,
9	but your Honor asked us to refresh your
10	recollection.
11	THE COURT: You did.
12	MR. SOLOW: Right. And that's the
13	issue, your Honor. It is a Settlement
14	Agreement. As set forth in the case law in
15	our motion in limine, the jury is not
16	entitled to rely upon that.
17	I understand your Honor is now taking
18	the position that the way to work around this
19	are limiting instructions, that's the
20	problem. You now have if you want to
21	submit to the jury the issue of what covered
22	conduct is, right, your Honor noted in the
23	short form orders we neither admit nor deny
24	any of that.
25	So on one hand we're now going to have

22 1 In Re: Opioid Trial 2 the jury deciding factual issues about why --3 what the State is barred from proceeding under this cause of action. On the other 4 5 hand I've got the same jury who's deciding the case against the Counties who are not 6 7 allowed to know about the Settlement 8 Agreement, because it's a Settlement 9 Agreement, there is significant case law on 10 that. There are not admissions, contrary to 11 arguments your Honor has heard, it can't go 12 to notice. So that's the problem, your 13 Honor. And I understand and respect the fact 14 that your Honor has ruled on that, and we've 15 16 taken it up on appeal, but that's the very 17 issue, your Honor. 18 At a certain point, now that you have 19 granted us a continuing objection around what 20 is -- what your Honor has held is not 21 marketing, for example, third-party 22 marketing, the issue, your Honor, of now 23 debating and letting the State put in as an 24 issue of fact whether, for example, the Opana 25 ER pre-approval training manual, which there

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 23
2	is deposition testimony establishing without
3	a doubt that it is the Opana ER training
4	manual, your Honor instructed the jury Friday
5	they're not allowed to consider that for the
6	State, but now we're going to have the State
7	use that document just so the jury can
8	determine that, in fact, it is covered under
9	the AOD.
10	In the meantime, the jury, as the
11	Counties' jury, is now hearing the very
12	Settlement Agreement they're not entitled to
13	hear because there are no admissions. It
14	does not go to notice. So, admittedly, your
15	Honor, that's the conundrum we have.
16	So I don't believe submitting reading
17	paragraphs 11 through 35, which we neither
18	admit nor deny to the jury, just to allow Mr.
19	Reisman to use a document which, candidly, we
20	think, as a matter of law, your Honor can
21	determine is clearly, under your short form
22	orders, covered as a covered conduct. That's
23	the issue, your Honor.
24	THE COURT: Thank you.
25	Mr. Reisman, very briefly.

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 24
2	MR. REISMAN: Yes, sir, understood.
3	So to cut to the chase here, so there is
4	a type of evidence regarding Endo, Endo's
5	statements made during marketing to
6	healthcare providers regarding the alleged
7	crush-resistant properties of reformulated
8	Opana ER. The State has no intention of
9	introducing that type of evidence in this
10	trial.
11	THE COURT: That's what I was referring
12	to. Yeah, keep going.
13	MR. REISMAN: Yes. Yes. And I think
14	we're agreed on that.
15	However, there is evidence concerning
16	Endo's knowledge of abuse and diversion at
17	the company level, at the marketing executive
18	level, their call plan strategies, the extent
19	of their detailing in New York, the extent of
20	their payments to healthcare providers in New
21	York, generally, as reflected in things like
22	open database, all those sorts of, types of
23	evidence are relevant to the question of what
24	Endo knew about abuse and diversion of
25	opioids generally and regarding Opana ER

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 25
2	specifically because, as we know, it was
3	withdrawn from the market because of abuse,
4	and that happened after March 1st 2016 and
5	that brings into play, it brings within
6	bounds, all of the evidence regarding what
7	Endo knew.
8	THE COURT: Okay. Bring the witness in,
9	please.
10	Make your objections in realtime.
11	MR. SOLOW: Thank you, your Honor.
12	THE COURT: I'm reserving all your
13	objections and your exceptions. Make them in
14	realtime also. The witness, please.
15	Oh, by the way, somebody noticed there
16	may be some Jewish holidays coming up real
17	soon. There was actually an article in the
18	Long Island paper yesterday about three that
19	are coming up real soon. So we'll make some
20	inquiries with the administration here as to
21	the availability of the facilities on those
22	days.
23	Good morning, Doctor.
24	THE WITNESS: Good morning.
25	THE CLERK: Good morning, Doctor. I

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26
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               remind you you're still under oath. You may
 3
              be seated.
 4
                    THE COURT: Bring the jury in, please.
 5
               Thank you.
                    THE CLERK: All jurors are present and
 6
 7
              properly seated, your Honor.
 8
                    THE COURT: Please be seated everybody.
 9
              Ms. Conroy.
10
                   MS. CONROY: Thank you, your Honor.
11
              Good morning. Good morning, your Honor.
12
              Good morning, Dr. Lembke.
                   THE WITNESS: Good morning.
13
14
                   MS. CONROY: Welcome back.
15
                   THE WITNESS: Thank you.
16
       CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION OF DR. LEMBKE BY
17
       MS. CONROY:
18
                  Just to sort of recap for everyone, last
19
       week we talked about addiction, correct?
20
              Α
                  Yes.
21
                   And withdrawal, tolerance, dependence,
22
       we talked about those concepts?
23
              Α
                  Yes, we did.
24
                   Okay. And you also spoke about dose and
25
       duration of the medication, how long someone took an
```

```
27
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       opioid and how high the dose might have been.
 3
              Α
                    Yes.
 4
                    And you explained chronic pain versus
               Q.
 5
       acute pain versus cancer pain.
 6
              Α
                    Yes.
 7
                    Okay. And you also talked about the
               Q.
 8
       methods that promotional messages could reach
 9
       doctors. Could you just give me -- just remind the
10
       jury specifically what those were.
11
                    Promotional messages reach doctors
12
       through what's called drug reps who are employed by
13
       the pharmaceutical industry to go out to doctors'
14
       offices and hospitals to market their products.
15
                    MR. PYSER: Objection, your Honor.
16
                    Just a clarification of the term "the
17
               pharmaceutical industry."
18
                    THE COURT: Yes. Ms. Conroy, we
19
               discussed that the term --
20
                    MS. CONROY: Yes.
21
              Q.
                    Do you recall that?
22
                    THE COURT: Dr. Lembke --
23
                    Yes. So they're hired by certain opioid
       manufacturers to go out to the doctors' offices and
24
25
       hospitals to market certain opioid products, but
```

28 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 promotional messages are also conveyed through 3 things like continuing medical education, which doctors are required to attend in order to maintain 4 licensure. 5 The point of continuing medical 6 7 education is to keep them up-to-date on science. 8 Promotional messages are also conveyed through key opinion leaders who are leaders in their field, 9 10 often from prestigious institutions who are in many 11 cases receiving payment from certain opioid 12 manufacturers to go and give these talks and promote what certain opioid manufacturers call their key 13 14 promotional messages. 15 Opioids are also promoted through 16 journal articles that are published in peer-review 17 literature. These studies are sometimes funded by 18 the opioid manufacturers and/or the authors are 19 employed by certain opioid manufacturers or are paid consultants of certain manufacturers. 20 21 Certain opioid manufacturers also 22 promote their messages by ingratiating themselves 23 and lobbying certain regulatory bodies, so the State 24

regulatory bodies or things like Joint Commission,

which I talked about, which is an organization that

Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 29

accredits hospitals without which those hospitals

would not be able to receive payments from insurers

like Medicare.

Certain opioid manufacturers have also created relationships with the Federation of State Medical Boards, and you'll remember the Federation of State Medical Boards is the organization that polices doctors to make sure that they are not engaged in unsafe and dangerous practices; that they are, as the hippocratic oath would say, first do no harm in their treatment of patients.

Q. Thank you.

The next topic I would like to get into with you is: What is the rate of addiction to prescription opioids when they are used to treat chronic pain patients? Do you know that rate?

A Yeah. So I've looked extensively at the scientific literature on this topic, which is to say the topic of how many people who are prescribed opioids by their doctor for a chronic pain condition have an opioid addiction, and the most reliable evidence shows that about 8 to 12 percent of patients getting an opioid from a doctor for a chronic pain addiction have an opioid addiction.

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30 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 That's 8 to 12 percent? Q. 3 Α Yes. 4 What do you rely on for this figure? 5 I rely primarily on a meta-analysis by Α Vowles. Meta-analysis is the study that combines a 6 7 bunch of different studies into one and analyzes 8 that data to come up with a number that represents 9 all of those studies, and the Vowles is the 10 definitive work on this question because it includes 11 studies that specifically set out to find out the rates of misuse and addiction among chronic pain 12 patients getting opioids from their doctor. 13 14 In comparison to other studies that have 15 claimed to explore this question, which don't 16 actually ask patients about misuse and addiction, 17 but expect patients to volunteer that information 18 and base their results on whether or not the patient 19 brought it up themselves, and that's highly 20 problematic, because misuse, opioid misuse, and 21 opioid addiction are highly shameful behaviors. 22 Patients would not naturally volunteer to their 23 doctor that they're misusing the opioids their 24 doctor is giving them. 25 So it's really essential when trying to

31 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 figure out the rates of addiction in this population 3 that we do things like ask the patient about it or give them questionnaires that might explore that or 4 test their urine for the presence of that drug or 5 another drug. And Vowles has exactly done that, the 6 7 study that I rely on. 8 It's taken new world patients from 9 primary care clinics, from pain clinics, and it's 10 included only those studies that actually sought to 11 illicit the specific information about whether those 12 patients were misusing or addicted to opioids. 13 And so that study determined 8 to 12 Q. percent of the patients would become addicted, 14 15 correct? 16 That study shows that among chronic pain 17 patients taking an opioid, about 8 to 12 percent of 18 them are addicted to opioids. 19 And what does that mean with respect to 20 the risk of addiction, how does that fall in line, 8 21 to 12 percent; what does that mean? 22 So in medicine if you're trying to 23 communicate to patients or providers whether or not 24 a risk is common, uncommon, very common, a very good 25 point of reliance is a scale from World Health

32 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 Organization. And the World Health Organization has 3 said that if the risk of an adverse event from taking a drug is somewhere between 1 percent and 10 4 percent, then that's a common risk and they use the 5 language of common. If the risk is greater than 10 6 7 percent, that is considered very common. 8 So according to the Vowles 9 meta-analysis, with the risk of 8 to 12 percent, 10 that means that the likelihood of being addicted in 11 a population of chronic pain patients getting 12 opioids is common to very common. 13 I would also add that this definition of common to very common is the same definition that 14 15 can be found in some opioid manufacturer labels. 16 So, for example, a label for Opana ER, 17 which is an Endo product, says in the label that a 18 risk factor is common if it is between 1 and 10 19 percent of the population manifesting that problem as a result of taking the drug. 20 And so the risk of addiction to 21 Q. 22 prescription opioids when taken by a chronic pain 23 patient is a far cry from rare, correct? 24 Α That is correct. 25 Q. Now, I would like to move on to talk

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33
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       with you about some specific promotional messages,
 3
       and I'd like you to refer to what was marked as
 4
       Exhibit P-27812. It is pretty big and it has -- it
       has an email on the front, but what I'm going to be
 5
       asking you about is the document that has Kadian on
 6
 7
       it with a ribbon. 27812.
 8
                    Yes, I have that.
              Α
 9
                    Doctor, what is the drug Kadian?
              Q.
10
                    Kadian is a long-acting form of
11
       morphine.
12
              Q.
                   And if you could turn to, I think it
13
       might be easiest if I give you the actual page of
14
       the document and then I'll give you the Bates No.
15
       So page 28 of the document and the Bates No. is --
16
       I'll put it up here -- Allergan MDL 01610549; do you
17
       have that page?
18
              Α
                    Yes, I do.
19
                   And we spoke a little bit about this on
20
       Friday. Do you see the term it says: Despite the
21
       improvements in pain management that have occurred
22
       over the past decade several barriers to effective
23
       pain control remain, and do you see the third bullet
       point, opioid phobia?
24
25
                   Yes, I see that.
```

34 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 Okay. And what is opioid phobia? 3 Opioid phobia, in the way that it is 4 used here, refers to an irrational fear on the part of the prescriber that their, that their patient 5 will get addicted to opioids through their 6 7 prescription. 8 Q. And now I'd like you to turn to page 31 9 of the document, and it's Allergan MDL 01610552. 10 And if you could take a look at the very bottom it 11 says: Although some progress has been made in 12 providing good pain control to every patient, many 13 factors still interfere with pain management. 14 include inadequate education of healthcare 15 providers, fear of regulatory action by clinicians 16 and inappropriate fear of addiction. 17 Do you see that? 18 Α Yes, I do. 19 Q. Is it inappropriate for a clinician or a 20 physician prescribing an opioid to a chronic pain patient to fear addiction? 21 22 No, it is not. 23 And why is that? Q. 24 Because, as I just said, the risk of 25 becoming addicted through a doctor's prescription

35 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 for treatment of chronic pain is actually common or 3 very common. Anybody can get addicted. 4 And is it actually inappropriate in a Q. learning manual for sales representatives, who are 5 going to promote Kadian, to suggest that a fear of 6 7 addiction is inappropriate? 8 Α Yes. I believe that these kinds of statements are false and misleading and shouldn't 9 10 have been included in training manuals. 11 Next, I'd like you to turn to page 76 of Ο. 12 the manual, and it is Allergan MDL 01610597, on page 13 76 of the manual. And do you see what I have 14 highlighted here: Substance abuse will be seen in a few patients in every -- what does CBP stand for? 15 16 Chronic benign pain. Α 17 And what is chronic benign pain? Q. 18 Α Non-cancer pain. 19 Q. And it goes on to say: Perhaps largely 20 because patients attempting to obtain opioids will 21 eventually end up at a pain management practice. 22 However, despite the continued unscientific beliefs 23 of some clinicians, there is no evidence that simply 24 taking opioids for a period of time will cause 25 substance abuse or addiction.

```
36
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    Do you see that?
 3
                    Yes, I do.
              Α
 4
                    Is that true?
               Q.
 5
                    No, it is not.
              Α
                    Is it false?
 6
               Q.
 7
                    Yes, it's false.
              Α
 8
                    Now, if you go further down on the page,
               Q.
       it says at the very last line: Educating clinicians
 9
10
       about these quidelines will help to ease their fears
11
       of prescribing for patients with chronic benign
       pain, and it's under a section entitled: Guidelines
12
13
       for Opioid Use in Chronic Benign Pain.
14
                    Do you see that?
15
                    Yes, I do.
              Α
16
                    Can you explain to the jury what is
17
       meant by "quidelines."
18
                    Guidelines, when that word is used, it
19
       has a strong influence on physicians, especially if
20
       it comes from an esteemed organization or was
21
       authored by leaders in the field.
22
                    Busy clinicians do not have time, the
23
       way that I have had time, to read them in articles
24
       to establish what the science really shows. They
25
       definitively rely on these condensed quidelines to
```

```
37
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       summarize the evidence for them so that they know
 3
       how best to practice and care for their patients.
                    So guidelines tend to be very
 4
       influential. That word alone carries weight in
 5
       terms of informing a clinician's decisionmaking
 6
 7
       capacity.
 8
                   And let me just take a moment to ask
              Q.
 9
       you, given your expertise, you are an addiction
10
       specialist, correct?
                   That's correct.
11
              Α
12
              Q.
                   Are you in a different position than
13
       other clinicians to evaluate national guidelines?
14
                   Well, I think that I'm -- vis-à-vis the
15
       opioid epidemic?
16
                    Yes, sorry. I'll be specific, yes,
              Q.
17
       talking -- not with everything. Your specialty is
18
       addiction, correct?
19
              Α
                   Yes.
20
                    So are you in a different position than
21
       a clinician who has a different specialty in
22
       evaluating guidelines with respect to opioids?
23
                   Yes. My background and knowledge allows
24
       me to really appreciate what is true and what is
25
       false about these guidelines on the treatment of
```

society.

38 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 pain using opioids. 3 The average physician out there has very little training in addiction medicine. We get 4 almost no training in medical school and, in 5 general, very little in our residency, which is that 6 7 apprenticeship period that follows medical school. 8 So the reason that I was able to see problems with opioid prescribing in my clinical 9 10 practice much earlier than the average clinician is 11 not because I am smarter or anything like that, it's because I'm an addiction medicine doctor so they 12 were coming into my clinic, whereas other types of 13 14 clinicians oftentimes they don't have -- well, they don't have the training and education, even under 15 16 the best of circumstances, even with training, it's 17 hard to detect, and then, of course, in modern 18 medicine today very often there is not the 19 opportunity of continuity of care to be able to see 20 what happens to your patient after you prescribe the 21 opioid. 22 So it's very, very hard for the average 23 clinician to see that the opioid epidemic was 24 happening as it was sort of exploding in our

39 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 And if we could now take a look at page 3 77 of the manual, which is Allergan MDL 01610598, it talks about three national guidelines that have been 4 published. Do you see that? 5 6 Α Yes. 7 And one is the American Academy of Pain Q. 8 Medicine; do you know what that is? 9 Yes, I do. Α 10 Okay. And what is that? Ο. 11 That's what's called a professional 12 medical society, and in this case it's a society of 13 pain doctors and pain healthcare providers, people 14 who specialize in the field of pain treatment. 15 And is that the same for the American Q. 16 Pain Society, the same sort of group? 17 Α Yes. 18 And they published a consensus 19 statement, The Use of Opioids for the Treatment of Chronic Pain; do you see that? 20 21 Α Yes. 22 Q. And have you reviewed that document? 23 Α Yes. 24 And do you have an opinion as to whether Ο. 25 or not it fairly states the risks of addiction to a

Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 40

clinician prescribing opioids for a pain patient?

A That document states that it actually recommends opioids in treatment of chronic pain.

So, again, we're not talking about short-term use for acute pain from which there is good evidence, we're talking about long-term use greater than three months of chronic pain for which there is no reliable evidence, and this document actually recommends the use of opioids in the treatment of chronic pain, despite the absence of evidence to support that.

Q. And if you take a look a little further down, another guideline is the Federation of State Medical Boards. It's developed model guidelines for the use of controlled substances for the treatment of pain. Can you explain for the jury what the Federation of State Medical Boards is?

A So, again, the Federation of State

Medical Boards is like the police of doctors making

sure that doctors are practicing safe medicine and

if they're not, then the Federation of State Medical

Boards can sanction that individual and potentially

even revoke their medical license.

Q. And, Doctor, do you know or have you

Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 41 researched how the model guidelines came about?

3 A Yes. So in my research, you know, one

of the distressing and shocking discoveries for me was how many of these regulatory bodies, which I had just simply assumed were operating based on the best science, were, in fact, being lobbied by and funded by certain opioid manufacturers, including Defendants in this case.

And when I struggled to figure out why a guideline would recommend opioids in the treatment of chronic pain in the absence of evidence or profligate the misleading promotional messages that we've been talking about today and last week, what came to light in my research was that it's, it's the funding and a close relationship they had with certain opioid manufacturers that influenced their guidelines in absence of the evidence to support their recommendations.

Specifically I -- for example, there's an organization out of Wisconsin called the Pain and Policy Study Group, and the Pain and Policy Study Group was influential in terms of the Federation of State Medical Boards' guidelines. The Pain and Policy Study Group received tens of thousands of

42 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 dollars from certain opioid manufacturers and then 3 aggressively lobbied the Federation of State Medical 4 Boards to make it easier for doctors to prescribe 5 opioids at very high doses without getting into trouble. 6 7 The Pain and Policy Study Group also 8 lobbied state legislatures to pass Intractable Pain Act that basically made it possible for doctors not 9 10 to prescribe opioids to patients who asked for them. 11 So, in other words, lobbying by opioid 12 manufacturers, certain opioid manufacturers and 13 payments from certain opioid manufacturers to the 14 Federation of State Medical Boards through front 15 groups like the Pain and Policy Study Group created 16 a scenario in which doctors had no choice but to 17 prescribe more opioids and, essentially, were duped 18 by these misinformed guidelines and misleading 19 messages. 20 If I could refer to my report, I'd like 21 to share a couple of quotes from the leaders of the 22 Pain and Policy Study Group. Would that be all 23 right? 24 THE COURT: Doctor, there's an 25 objection. Wait for Ms. Conroy to get there.

43 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 Thank you. 3 Yes, if you could refer to your report, 4 and I believe you do have some quotes from Pain and Policy Study Group leaders that you have identified, 5 and if you could read those to the jury. 6 7 So, first of all, just, you know, a 8 financial list of contributions between 2000 and 9 2007 from the Pain and Policy Study Group out of 10 Wisconsin attested to receiving tens of thousands of 11 dollars from certain opioid manufacturers, including 12 Endo Pharmaceuticals, Cephalon and Alpharma, and 13 emails --14 MR. BARTLE: Objection. Instruct the 15 jury --16 THE COURT: Is that mic turned on? 17 MR. BARTLE: Sorry. Harvey Bartle, 18 Morgan, Lewis & Bockius. We ask you to 19 instruct the jury again with regard to 20 connection as to pain medicine. 21 THE COURT: Neither me nor my law 22 secretary can make out what you're saying. 23 MR. BARTLE: Sorry, your Honor. We 24 discussed this previously. We ask you to 25 instruct the jury again with regard to

1	Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 44
2	connection as to pain medicine.
3	THE COURT: I got it.
4	MR. SHKOLNIK: Your Honor, the witness
5	is identifying the actual entities that made
6	the payments.
7	THE COURT: I heard that.
8	I think the objection is really not an
9	objection, it's a heads-up or a precautionary
10	suggestion. And I told you this before, and
11	I'll say it one more time, I'll probably say
12	it a lot more as we progress. Eventually,
13	the any witness' testimony has to be
14	connected to a specific Defendant in the case
15	because that's how you'll eventually
16	determine whether there is or is not
17	responsibility.
18	The suggestion was so the objection,
19	I remind you of that and every time it
20	happens, you'll know that. I do note that
21	the witness' answer did name specific
22	Defendants. So proceed.
23	MR. KNAPP: Your Honor, Tim Knapp on
24	behalf of Allergan. Just an objection.
25	There was a reference to Defendants. Of

45 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 course, Dr. Lembke mentioned Alpharma, which 3 is not a defendant. THE COURT: They've been told countless 4 times "Defendants" is nondescriptive of any 5 6 specific party in this lawsuit. That means, 7 again -- I told you I'd say it again, I just 8 did -- Defendants is just a generic term that 9 does not identify a specific party. When the 10 witness does identify a specific party, you 11 may consider it, but, like I told you early 12 on, I'll give you an instruction, certainly 13 at the end of this case, as to your 14 consideration of any, any expert testimony. 15 You know, we anticipate quite a few. 16 Proceed. 17 I'm going to read to you a quote from a 18 Dr. Georgeson, who was the Director of the Wisconsin 19 Pain and Policy Study Group, in an email to a 20 certain opioid manufacturer and he said --21 MR. KNAPP: Your Honor, objection. 22 MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor. 23 THE COURT: What is the objection? 24 MR. HERSCHLEIN: The witness is reading 25 from a document. She said she's reading a

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46
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
              quote. I quess it's an out-of-court
 3
               statement that the witness is going to offer
               for the truth. We don't even know what
 4
 5
               document --
                    THE COURT: Hearsay objection?
 6
 7
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Hearsay. Apologies,
 8
               your Honor.
                    THE COURT: Both of you say it's a
 9
10
               hearsay objection.
11
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Apologies, your Honor.
                    THE COURT: Was this document that
12
13
               you're reading from, was it included in your
14
               report of things that you considered in
15
               connection with your testimony, Doctor; yes
16
               or no?
17
                   THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.
18
                    THE COURT: Overruled.
19
                   MR. KNAPP: Your Honor, I restate the
20
               objection that --
21
                    THE COURT: So noted.
22
                   MR. KNAPP: Thank you.
23
                   THE COURT: Thank you.
24
                   And this is a quote. "We have improved
25
       state medical board policies. Many states now have
```

```
47
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       improved pain opioid policies that address concerns
 3
       about regulatory scrutiny. We developed much of it
 4
       from behind the scenes. We wrote the two models
       that states have used. The medical board guidelines
 5
       from California and the model guideline of the
 6
 7
       Federation of State Medical Boards.
 8
                    Similarly, another quote written from
 9
       another Director, Dr. Gillson of the Pain and Policy
       Study Group, this time to a representative in North
10
11
       Dakota. He writes quote: Well, the representative
12
       from North Dakota where they passed one of these
13
       Intractable Pain Act that made it very difficult for
14
       doctors not to prescribe opioids if the patient
15
       requested them. The representative from North
16
       Dakota writes, quote --
17
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor.
18
               Jurisdiction, North Dakota.
19
                    THE COURT: Folks, although it's a
20
               lovely state, why don't we skip that one.
                   Go ahead.
21
22
                   MS. CONROY: I think that's the only
23
              quote, your Honor.
24
                   MR. SHKOLNIK: Your Honor, I don't want
25
               to say anymore than the quote that's being
```

```
48
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               referenced shows the national policy
 3
               applicable to the Federation of State Boards.
                    THE COURT: Ms. Conroy, rephrase the
 4
 5
              question.
                   MS. CONROY: Yes.
 6
 7
                   Can you -- can you read the quote
 8
       without referring to the actual state and also let
 9
       me ask you first: Does the quote you're about to
10
       read refer to more than just an individual state
11
       quideline?
12
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Same objection, your
13
              Honor.
14
                    THE COURT: Overruled.
15
                   Yes. It refers to the Pain and Policy
16
       Study Groups' actions nationally.
17
                   Okay. Please proceed.
              Q.
18
                   So the quote to the executive or the
19
       email to the executive of the Pain and Policy Study
20
       Group said: "Did you guys have a hand in this one?"
21
       And the response was from Gillson of the Pain and
22
       Policy Study Group: "I'm impressed that you could
23
       detect our fingerprints. I will wear gloves next
24
       time. Yes, we work with Bruce Levi, Executive
25
       Director of the North Dakota Medical Association to
```

49 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 change the Intractable Treatment Pain Act to a 3 general pain statute which also removed the 4 prescribing restrictions for addicts." 5 And, Doctor, these guidelines were intended to assist clinicians in feeling more 6 7 reassured about prescribing opioids to pain 8 patients, correct? 9 I think it even went beyond that where 10 it actually put pressure on prescribers to prescribe 11 opioids, and it, essentially, changed the way that 12 opioids are used in medicine. Doctor, I'd now like you to refer to 13 Q. 14 page 84 of the document and it is -- I think we 15 stopped the Elmo from jumping around -- Allergan MDL 16 01601605, and toward the top it says: At the end of 17 the 1990s, however, the increasing frequency of 18 diversion and abuse of opioid medications drew widespread public attention. 19 And that's true; isn't it? 20 21 Α The end of the 1990s was really the 22 beginning of the opioid epidemic. 23 0. And then the last sentence of that 24 paragraph: As a result, many clinicians became 25 afraid to prescribe opioids for chronic benign pain;

```
50
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       do you see that?
 3
                    Yes, I see that, but I don't think that
 4
       mischaracterizes --
 5
                    THE COURT: The answer is just yes or
                   You see that, correct?
 6
               no.
 7
                    Next question.
 8
                    THE WITNESS: Yes, your Honor.
 9
               Q.
                    And do you have an opinion about that?
10
                    Yes, I do.
               Α
11
                    And what is that?
               0.
12
                    I think that this paragraph, although
       acknowledging the problem of diversion of opioid
13
14
       medication, gets it wrong in terms of the timing of
       when it drew widespread public attention or when
15
16
       many clinicians became afraid to prescribe opioids.
17
                    It really wasn't until about 2016 that
18
       the average clinician appreciated their role in the
19
       opioid epidemic, and where we started to see a shift
20
       and an awareness in the medical profession was late
21
       1990s was really when the promotion took off which
22
       changed prescribing, increased prescribing, which
23
       led to the opioid epidemic.
24
               Q.
                    And if you look at the next paragraph it
25
       says most clinicians have only a superficial
```

```
51
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       understanding of what substance abuse really is, are
 3
       not skilled at recognizing the symptoms of the
 4
       problem and have no knowledge of the diversion and
       illicit resale of controlled medications. That's
 5
       really what you were just talking about, correct,
 6
 7
       that it took a long time for clinicians to reach
       that understanding?
 8
 9
                   Yes.
              Α
10
                   And -- but in this document, at least to
11
       the sales force for Kadian, they are telling the
       sales force that clinicians don't have a good
12
13
       understanding, correct?
14
                   Here in this document, yes, it states
15
       something that is true, that clinicians do not have
16
       a good understanding how to screen or intervene for
17
       addiction.
18
                   And despite that, throughout the
19
       document we see references to low addiction rates,
       the benefits of opioids for chronic pain --
20
21
                   MR. KNAPP: Objection, Judge.
22
                    THE COURT: Sustained.
23
                    In fact, It's what's called repetitive
24
               direct, so go elsewhere. Thank you.
25
                    MS. CONROY: Great.
```

```
52
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                   You can put that document away, Doctor.
 3
                    I'm going to talk about Teva now, and
               I'd like to offer into evidence P18151.
 4
                   MR. BARTLE: I would just like to see
 5
 6
               it, your Honor. I would like to see it.
 7
                   MS. CONROY: No, we're getting it.
 8
                   MR. BARTLE: Your Honor, we object.
 9
               This is not disclosed.
10
                    THE COURT: Let me take a look and I'll
11
               ask a question or two.
                   MR. BARTLE: This didn't become an
12
13
               exhibit, your Honor, until last night.
14
                    THE COURT: The nature of your objection
15
               is?
16
                   MR. BARTLE: It's not in their
17
              disclosure. She never testified about it.
18
               It's not in the report. We obtained that
19
               exhibit last evening.
20
                    THE COURT: Mr. Bartle suggested that is
21
              not in the expert disclosure; is it?
22
                   MS. CONROY: It is not, your Honor.
23
              What I would like to do, this is -- I would
24
               like the doctor to assume these products and,
25
               subject to connection, offer this as an
```

```
53
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               exhibit.
 3
                    THE COURT: Okay. You may pose a
 4
               hypothetical question. All of you may pose
 5
               hypothetical questions to any expert, but I
               will tell the jury the following:
 6
 7
                    An expert in a question and answer may
 8
               be asked to assume certain facts as if they
 9
               were in evidence. It's called hypothetical
10
               question. They want you to assume A, B, C,
11
               D, E and F or whatever, right.
12
                    The witness is permitted to answer.
13
               However, if those facts that are the basis of
14
               the hypothetical question are not
15
               independently proved during the course of the
16
               trial, that testimony will be not considered
17
               by you and I'll strike it.
18
                   MR. BARTLE: We maintain our objection.
19
                    THE COURT: So noted.
20
               Q.
                   Doctor --
21
                    THE COURT: No. Forget it, go ahead.
22
               It's fine.
23
                    Doctor, I would like you to assume that
               Q.
24
       Teva sold controlled substances, CT2 products that
       included Actiq; have you heard of Actiq?
25
```

```
54
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               Α
                    Yes.
                    And could you describe what Actiq is?
 3
               Q.
                    It's a -- essentially, it's a fentanyl
 4
               Α
 5
       lollipop.
                    And what does that mean, like an actual
 6
               Q.
 7
       lollipop?
 8
                    It means it's fentanyl on the end of a
 9
       stick that you put in your mouth and the fentanyl is
10
       absorbed through the mucosa. So that's the way it
11
       gets into the bloodstream.
12
               Q.
                    And how would you describe fentanyl
       versus other opioid products with respect to
13
14
       potency?
15
                    Fentanyl is one of the most potent
16
       opioid pharmaceuticals we have. It's 50 to 100
17
       times more potent than morphine.
18
                    Doctor, I would also like you to assume
19
       that Teva sold a fentanyl patch.
                    Have you heard of a fentanyl patch?
20
21
              A
                   Yes.
22
               Q.
                    And how does that work?
23
              Α
                    It's the same molecule fentanyl with the
24
       same potency, but instead of getting it to the
25
       bloodstream through the mucosa in your mouth, it's a
```

55 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 patch that goes on the skin and it penetrates the skin and gets into the bloodstream that way. 3 And I would like you to assume that Teva 4 Q. sold Fentora, are you familiar with Fentora? 5 6 Α Yes. 7 And what is that? Q. 8 That is a buccal tablet that, again, is Α 9 not swallowed but rather held in the cheek and 10 absorbed through what they call effervescence 11 through the mucosa. 12 And why is it that there are products Q. for pain that are put into the mouth or can be 13 14 transmitted just by putting up into your cheek? 15 There are instances when patients can't 16 take the medication in other ways. For example, 17 they might not be able to swallow; perhaps they're 18 at very end of life or they've had some severe type 19 of chemotherapy and they maybe got erosive ulcers in 20 their throat; perhaps they're intubated in the ICU, 21 which means they got a breathing tube down their 22 throat. 23 So it's important to have multiple 24 modalities for getting the medication, in this case 25 opioids, into the system.

```
56
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    I would also like you to assume that
 3
       Teva sold generic Actiq, as well as generic
 4
       OxyContin.
 5
                   Are you familiar with OxyContin?
 6
                   Yes.
 7
                   And who originally manufactured
              Q.
 8
       OxyContin?
 9
                   OxyContin was originally manufactured by
10
       Purdue Pharmaceuticals.
                   And what is either generic OxyContin or
11
              Ο.
12
       OxyContin; what is it actually?
13
                   OxyContin is a long-acting form of
14
       oxycodone and it's dosed approximately twice per
15
       day. It's a very -- it's also a very potent opioid.
16
                   And do you want me to get into the
17
       unique aspects of the capsule?
18
              Q.
                   No, it's okay, just what it is, and it's
       not fentanyl, correct?
19
20
                    It's not fentanyl, but they are both in
       the class of opioid.
21
22
               Q.
                    Thank you.
23
                    MS. CONROY: I would like to offer into
24
               evidence P18376.
25
                    THE COURT: While they're marking that,
```

1	Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 57
2	during that question and answer, Dr. Lembke
3	was asked to assume five or six facts, all
4	right. Those facts must be independently
5	established in order for that evidence to be
6	admissible, but, like I said, we allow
7	experts to answer hypothetical questions.
8	Understood?
9	MR. BARTLE: Your Honor, I don't have an
10	objection presently subject to laying a
11	foundation. The witness has no personal
12	knowledge of this document. To the extent it
13	does come in later, just note our objection.
14	THE COURT: Thank you. Let me see the
15	document.
16	You've heard the objection?
17	MS. CONROY: I'm sorry, your Honor?
18	THE COURT: I said you heard the
19	objection?
20	MS. CONROY: Foundation?
21	THE COURT: Also, the witness has no
22	personal knowledge of the document and
23	foundation was a secondary objection.
24	Do I have that right, Mr. Bartle?
25	MR. BARTLE: It's both, your Honor.

```
58
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                   What I'm saying is we understand it's a
 3
               document she relied upon in her disclosure.
 4
               She can give her opinions about this
              document. But she did not create it, she did
 5
              not make it, she is not employed by the
 6
 7
               company. So whether or not it comes in later
 8
 9
                   THE COURT: You stipulate to CPLR
10
               4540(a) document; yes or no?
11
                   MR. BARTLE: It was produced.
12
                   THE COURT: Say again.
13
                   MR. BARTLE: Just note my objection.
14
               I'm not trying to prohibit the witness from
15
              talking about it.
16
                   MS. CONROY: Yes, it was produced, your
17
              Honor.
18
                   MR. PRESNAL: And offered by his client.
                   THE COURT: Okay. Overruled.
19
20
                   Exception duly noted.
21
              Q.
                   Doctor, is Exhibit P18376 a type of
22
       document that you would rely on in formulating your
23
       opinions in this case?
24
              A Yes, it is.
25
              Q.
                   And did you consider Exhibit P18376 in
```

```
59
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       formulating your opinions?
 3
                    Yes, I did.
              Α
                    And what is the document?
 4
               Q.
                    This is a 2005 Actiq marketing plan, so
 5
              Α
       internal documents describing the company's plan for
 6
 7
       marketing their drug Actiq, the fentanyl lollipop.
 8
                    And let me show you the front page of
               Q.
       the document, and is that the lollipop?
 9
10
                    Yes.
              Α
11
                    Now, I would like you to turn to page 39
12
       of the document, then I will get to the Bates No. --
       Bates Teva MDL A 100 -- I'm sorry -- 01159362.
13
14
                    I direct your attention to where it says
15
       abuse, addiction and diversion; do you see that?
16
                    Yes, I do.
              Α
17
                    And it says: Unfortunately,
18
       undertreatment of pain continues to be a widespread
19
       problem; is that true?
20
                    Pain is a huge problem in this country,
21
       but to say that it is undertreated and to then
22
       follow that with a discussion of prescription
23
       opioids is one of the ways that certain opioid
24
       manufacturers shamed doctors into prescribing
25
       opioids.
```

60 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 By juxtaposing the problem of the 3 undertreatment of pain with marketing or promotional messages about their product, they essentially were 4 communicating to doctors, it's undertreated because 5 you're not willing to prescribe opioids. 6 7 So, yes, pain is a problem; opioids are 8 not the answer. 9 And if you could just read to the jury 10 the next sentence, because I think that actually 11 explains what you just said. 12 It has been postulated that one reason 13 why pain is undertreated is due to physician fear of prescribing opioid analgesic medications, opioid 14 15 phobia. 16 And what does that mean? Q. 17 That essentially means that the problem 18 of undertreatment is the physicians' fault, because 19 they're not willing to use opioids to treat pain. 20 Q. And we saw just a few minutes ago with 21 the Kadian document, we saw the term opioid phobia; 22 do you recall that? 23 Α Yes. 24 And here we see it a little different, 25 opiophobia here in the Teva document, the Actiq

```
61
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       document, correct?
 3
                   Yes. There are two common spellings.
 4
       One is with a D at the end of opioid. One is
       without the D. They're the same term, essentially.
 5
                   And being used by two different
 6
 7
       Defendants?
 8
              Α
                   Yes. This was a common key message that
       appears in multiple promotional documents.
 9
10
                    THE COURT: Okay. There's an objection.
11
                   MR. BARTLE: I'm sorry, your Honor,
12
              Ms. Conroy states two different Defendants.
13
                   MS. CONROY: The Kadian Defendant that
14
               we just looked at.
15
                   THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.
16
                    The portion of the testimony that's not
17
               specifically distributed, i.e, to Defendants,
18
               is stricken. I'm not precluding you, but be
19
              more direct in your examination.
                    This morning which two Defendants did we
20
              Q.
21
       see a reference to either opioid phobia or
22
       opiophobia?
23
                   Kadian, Allergan Pharmaceuticals, and I
24
       believe we saw records as well to Endo, or not yet.
25
              Q.
                   Not yet, but here, this one.
```

62 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 This is Teva, Cephalon. Α 3 Thank you. Q. Now, was Actiq indicated for specific 4 kind of pain? 5 Yes. So Actiq, the fentanyl lollipop, 6 7 was FDA-approved for breakthrough cancer pain. Very specific and narrow indication, breakthrough cancer 8 9 pain. 10 And what does that mean if a drug is Ο. 11 approved for a specific use by the FDA? And please 12 use this as an example, the Actiq and cancer pain 13 versus chronic pain. 14 That means that if a physician were to 15 prescribe Actiq, the fentanyl lollipop for something 16 other than breakthrough cancer pain, they would be 17 prescribing it off-label, off of the FDA label. 18 Now, I'd like you to turn to page 45 of 19 the document and it is Teva MDL 01159368, and I 20 would like to direct your attention to Actiq, 2005 21 positioning. What does that mean? 22 That means that this is about how they 23 were going to position their promotion of the 24 product to prescribers. 25 Q. And if you take a look at the section in

```
63
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       bold, can you read that for the jury.
 3
                    (READING:) Actiq is fentanyl in a
 4
       unique oral transmucosal delivery system that
 5
       provides the most rapid onset of analgesia of any
       non-invasive opioid formulation available which
 6
 7
       makes it the ideal agent for BTP or rapid onset,
 8
       such as BTCP.
 9
                    And what does BTCP stand for?
               Q.
10
                    Breakthrough pain.
               Α
11
                    And what is rapid onset pain?
               Q.
12
                    Pain that comes on all of a sudden.
               Α
13
               Q.
                    Does breakthrough pain only occur with
14
       cancer?
15
               Α
                    No.
16
                    What about rapid onset pain?
               Q.
17
                    That is also not exclusive to cancer.
               Α
18
                    So what is being said here is that Actiq
19
       is an ideal agent for breakthrough pain or rapid
20
       onset pain, both of which are not exclusively cancer
21
       pain?
22
               Α
                    That's correct.
23
                    And if you could now turn to page 37 --
               Q.
24
       actually, we'll cut it a little bit short and go to
25
       page 25.
```

```
64
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    And page 25 is Teva MDL 10 -- I'm
 3
       sorry -- 01159348, and at the top of the page, and
       I'll show you on page 24, the section we're looking
 4
       at is physician usage. What does that mean?
 5
                    That means how doctors were using the
 6
 7
       Actiq fentanyl lollipop.
 8
                   And could you read this top two
              Q.
 9
       sentences or just read the first sentence on the
10
       top.
11
                    (READING:) Based on physician
12
       reporting, 90 percent of Actiq use is for
13
       breakthrough pain outside of cancer, with the
14
       majority of use 55 percent of the total being for
15
       chronic back pain. This broad use of Actiq suggests
16
       there are many prescribers who...
17
                   And you can go on.
              Q.
18
                    ...understand or are experienced
19
       prescribing fentanyl, treat the pain
20
       pathophysiology, not the disease state or the
21
       etiology. Etiology means cause of the pain.
22
       Understand the benefit that Actiq affords their
23
       patients and are comfortable utilizing it beyond its
24
       labeled indication.
25
              Q.
                   What's happening here, Doctor?
```

Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 65

A Essentially what this is saying is that the corporation recognizes that out in real life Actiq, the fentanyl lollipop, is most commonly prescribed for people who don't have any kind of cancer at all, and that in current prescribers of the Actiq fentanyl lollipop, most of their patients have things like chronic low-back pain.

- Q. And is there a risk of addiction dependence, overdose and death with the increased use of a fentanyl lollipop like Actiq?
- A Absolutely. So one of the core features of the opioid epidemic is not just that opioids were being prescribed for more people at higher doses for longer periods of time, but that they have been prescribed for broader indications, meaning for minor pain conditions, for chronic pain conditions, the types of conditions for which there's no evidence that the benefits of opioids outweigh the risks.
- Q. And, Doctor, let's for a minute talk about some of the practical ways that this sort of promotion would take place of Actiq.
- If you could turn to page 78 of the document Teva MDL A 01159401, and what I'm showing

25

66 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 you is a part of the appendix which had the budget for 2005, the tactical budget, and do you see the 3 section that says Medical Education? 4 5 Α Yes, I do. Okay. And can you describe at least 6 what is expected to be budgeted and for what 7 8 purposes. 9 This shows that the makers of Actiq were 10 willing to pay millions of dollars to promote their 11 product to physicians and other healthcare 12 prescribers. You could see here that they spent more than 9 million dollars to support continuing 13 14 medical education. 15 Remember, that's the mandatory educational meetings doctors have to go to to stay 16 17 up to date and to keep their license. Consultants 18 meetings, that's the meetings with their key opinion 19 leaders and other individuals who will help them 20 promote their product, and also speaker training, so 21 that's where they would create slides and 22 essentially create a script for key opinion leaders 23 to go out to educational conferences and use that

script in order to promote their product and promote

opioids more generally.

67 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 And when you were just referring to 3 conferences, is that the increased presence at pain conferences? 4 5 Yes. So a major strategy was to go to meetings and gatherings of professionals in the 6 7 field of medicine. 8 So I talked a little bit about professional medical societies, like the American 9 10 Academy of Pain Medicine, the American Pain Society 11 where everybody in the field comes together once or 12 twice a year to be at a conference, to be educated at that conference, and this shows that money was 13 spent in order to be at those conferences, to be 14 15 able to meet and greet with doctors, to tell them 16 about their product, to give little promotional 17 gizmos: hats, pens. 18 And if we could take a look at page 80, 19 Teva MDL A 01159403, this is appendix 8, which is 20 the 2005 medical meeting plan, and I would direct 21 your attention to where I've highlighted. 22 Can you explain to the jury what this 23 is. 24 This is just detailing a specific 25 conference with the date and the location and how

68 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 many specialties in the field of pain might have shown up at that conference. 3 So this is an American Pain Society 4 Q. conference that will take place in late March in 5 2005 in Boston, correct? 6 7 Α Yes. 8 And the products that will be discussed, Q. 9 GAB and Actiq, and then if you look above the 10 specialty, what does that mean when it says 11 specialty pain? What does that mean? 12 Doctors who specialize in treating 13 patients with pain. 14 And so they would anticipate that 2000 15 doctors would be in Boston for this American Pain 16 Society conference and their specialty would be 17 pain, correct? 18 That's right. 19 THE COURT: Members of the jury, I did 20 tell you if any of you need a break just let 21 the court officer know, okay. Don't be shy. 22 I'm going to move on to another document. This one is in evidence, P24979, it's the 23 24 Fentora Learning System, and I think you have it up 25 there, Doctor, 24979, and it has an email on the

```
69
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       front of it, but it looks like --
 3
                    THE COURT: Hold off. Two of our jurors
 4
               would appreciate a break.
 5
                   MS. CONROY: Okay.
                    THE COURT: We'll take a 20-minute
 6
 7
               recess. I think it takes 20 minutes just to
 8
               get through the system, so to speak, so we'll
 9
               take a 20-minute recess.
10
                    Don't discuss the case amongst
               yourselves or with anyone else until the
11
12
               appropriate time.
13
                    Thank you.
14
                    THE COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury
15
               exiting.
16
                    (WHEREUPON, a short recess was taken.)
17
                    THE CLERK: Come to order. Supreme
               Court is back in session.
18
19
                    THE COURT: Be seated. Just so you
20
               know, I checked the holiday dates on the
21
               recess, we're okay. The next time the school
22
               is closed is Labor Day.
23
                    Okay, bring the jury back.
24
                    THE CLERK: I remind you, Doctor, you're
               still under oath.
25
```

```
70
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    THE COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury
 3
               entering.
 4
                    THE CLERK: All jurors are present and
 5
              properly seated.
 6
                    THE COURT: Be seated. Thank you.
 7
              Ms. Conroy.
 8
       CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION OF DR. LEMBKE BY
 9
       MS. CONROY:
10
                  Doctor, just before the break we were
11
       looking at P24979, it's the Fentora Learning System;
       do you have that?
12
13
                  Yes.
              A
14
              Q. And could you remind the jury what is
15
       Fentora?
16
                   Fentora is the fentanyl tablet that goes
17
       into the cheek that is absorbed transmucosally.
18
              Q.
                   And who manufactures and sells Fentora?
19
                   Teva, Cephalon.
20
                   And I'd like to direct -- and what is
              Q.
       Fentora indicated for?
21
22
                   Breakthrough cancer pain.
23
              Q.
                    If you could take a look at page 40 of
24
       the document and it is Teva MDL A 00890346, section
25
       that says: Like patients, caregivers may need
```

```
71
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
       reassurance that few people using opioids for a
 2
 3
       legitimate medical reason become addicted to the
       drug. Do you see that?
 4
 5
                   Yes, I do.
              Α
                    "Few people," that's not common or very
 6
 7
       common, correct?
                    To say "few people" is inconsistent with
 8
 9
       the science showing that addiction is common or very
10
       common in people being prescribed opioids for
       chronic pain.
11
                   Is that statement false?
12
               Q.
13
              A
                   Yes.
14
                   And the statement goes on and says:
15
       that physical dependence to a drug is easily
16
       overcome to scheduled dose decreases if the patient
17
       improves to the point where opioids are no longer
18
       needed; do you see that?
19
              Α
                   Yes, I do.
                    Is physical dependence to a drug easily
20
21
       overcome?
22
              Α
                   Not for most people, no.
23
                   And why is that?
              Q.
24
                    Because the brain and the body adapts to
25
       the presence of the drug, so literally it changes
```

Q.

72 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 the brain. So when a dose goes down or the 3 medication is stopped abruptly, patients will experience the classic syndromes of opioid 4 5 withdrawal. And even beyond the immediate two to three weeks of acute physical withdrawal, there can 6 7 be a persistent psychological syndrome called 8 protracted abstinence syndrome characterized by 9 ongoing irritability, depression, anxiety, insomnia 10 and craving for the drug. 11 Is there a difference between physical 12 dependence to fentanyl versus oxycodone or a 13 different type of opioid? 14 Well, because fentanyl is so much more 15 potent than other opioids, you're effectively giving 16 that person more opioids. We do know that the risk 17 of addiction is dose and duration dependant, and 18 addiction is commonly accompanied by physical 19 dependence. 20 And when I say that it's dose and 21 duration dependant, what I mean is that the more 22 opioid you're on, and the longer you're on them, the 23 more likely you are to become addicted to that 24 opioid.

Is it false that physical dependence to

73 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 a drug is easily overcome through scheduled dosing 3 decreases? 4 That's false for the vast majority of Α 5 people, yes. If you could turn to page 45 of the 6 7 document, which is Teva MDL A 00890351. And I think we took a look at this 8 9 document the other day. In patients without 10 personal or family history of substance abuse 11 addiction resulting from exposure to opioid therapy is uncommon. Is that statement true? 12 13 Α No. Because the risk of addiction is common 14 15 to very common, correct? Yes. And because -- although it is true 16 17 that if you have a personal or a family history of 18 addiction and your doctor gives you an opioid for 19 pain, you're more likely than the average person to 20 get addicted to that opioid because of the genetic 21 or inherited factors that we talked about, as well 22 as the childhood nurture factors. 23 But even though that is true, the 24 biggest risk of getting addicted to an opioid that a 25 doctor gives you for pain is how much they gave you

1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 74
2 and how long you were on it, and that risk trumps
3 the other inborn genetic risks based on personal or
4 family history.

Furthermore, even with no personal or family history of getting addicted to anything, it's still common for patients to get addicted when they get put on an opioid by their doctor, and doctors can't predict who will and will not get addicted once they get started on opioids.

- Q. Is this statement that addiction risk is uncommon false?
- that Porter and Jick letter to the editor, which was cited as a study and isn't really a study.

 Remember that hospitalized study, study of hospitalized patients showing that there are more than four out of 11,882 developed a "narcotic addiction" and how that is not really evidence because it was a hospitalized sample, which is not consistent with the real world population of outpatients walking around with things like chronic low-back pain, and because many of those individuals just got a single dose or got a very low dose for short duration.

75 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 So, again, this is misleading because it 3 looks like it blends science in numbers by using a citation that wasn't robust enough to be used for 4 this kind of statement. 5 And now if you could turn to page 49, 6 7 Teva MDL A 00890355. You're going to be looking at 8 the top of the page. It says: Pain appears to 9 reduce the euphoric effects of opioids so people 10 taking opioids to manage their pain may be at a 11 lower risk for addiction. What are they saying here? 12 13 So this is a really important misleading Α key message that was put out there by certain opioid 14 manufacturers and it had a huge impact on doctors. 15 16 Doctor, can I just stop you there. Q. 17 We can talk specifically, this is a 18 message being put out by Teva with respect to 19 Fentora, correct? MR. BARTLE: Objection, your Honor. 20 21 sorry, your Honor, never mind. Withdraw the 22 objection. 23 Q. I'm sorry, you can go ahead, Doctor. 24 THE COURT: Go ahead. 25 Α Okay. So just to answer the question,

76 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 what this statement essentially stands for is that 3 there's something biologically unique about a patient who has pain, such that if they take an 4 opioid that their doctor gave them for the pain, 5 they're somehow magically immune from getting 6 7 addicted. 8 This was very persuasive for doctors trained starting in the late 1990s for the last two 9 10 decades. 11 In doing research for my books I talked 12 to many doctors about what their education and 13 impressions were of opioids for pain and many of 14 them told me that they were convinced by statements 15 like this that somehow as long as they were 16 prescribing the opioid to a real patient with real 17 pain, that the patient was very unlikely to get 18 addicted. That's how we ended up with the opioid 19 epidemic. This is patently not true. Is this statement false? 20 Q. 21 Α Yes, it is. 22 Let's take a look at the next paragraph 23 where it says: Certain behaviors are sometimes 24 mistaken for addiction. If patients receive 25 inadequate pain relief they may exhibit drug seeking

77 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 behaviors. This is called pseudoaddiction. 3 What is pseudoaddiction? Pseudoaddiction is a made-up term and it 4 Α essentially means fake addiction. 5 And where does this originate from? 6 7 This term was originally coined by two 8 authors who published a case report in a peer-review medical journal. A case report is a description of 9 10 a single patient. 11 And what they described was a young man, who I believe had leukemia, who had pain and it was 12 being treated with opioid, but who engaged in what's 13 called drug seeking behaviors, like making up, you 14 know, gestures to demonstrate that he was in more 15 16 pain, putting a lot of work into getting more pain 17 medicine, which these authors then describe as 18 pseudoaddiction, essentially, essentially saying 19 that if you have a patient who is demonstrating all 20 the signs and symptoms of having become addicted, 21 they're not really addicted, they're pseudo addicted 22 and in pain, and you need to go up on the pain 23 medicine. 24 And the only real criteria for sorting 25 out, according to these -- this concept, who's

25

78 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 addicted and who's pseudo addicted is to ask the 3 patient if they have pain, and if they say yes, then you should go up on the pain medicine, because you 4 5 should treat to whatever the patient says, ignoring anything else. That is essentially what happened. 6 7 And the problem with this concept was 8 that it made it very difficult for prescribers to 9 diagnose addiction in the context of treating a 10 patient with opioid for pain, because even when you 11 saw somebody who was doing all the things that 12 people with addiction do: lying, you know, getting drugs from multiple prescribers, you know, doing a 13 lot of thinking, a lot of effort to get more 14 opioids, you really weren't allowed to say that they 15 16 were addicted because you had to call them pseudo 17 addicted to increase the opioid. 18 The other tragic impact of this concept 19 is it really deprived those individuals who became 20 addicted through their doctors' prescriptions 21 getting appropriate addiction treatment that might 22 have saved their lives. 23 Doctor, is using the concept of Q. 24 pseudoaddiction false promotion?

Yes. It's false, but it also encouraged

```
79
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       higher dosage of opioid prescribing, right, because
 3
       the solution for pseudoaddiction was to go up on a
 4
       meter.
 5
                   MR. BARTLE: I'm going to object to this
               question and answer and request a short
 6
 7
               sidebar on this. It's outside the scope.
 8
                    THE COURT: Give me the question back,
 9
               please. Oh, by the way, you're all directed
10
               to the Court's decision short form order
               dated November 12th 2020 as concerns --
11
                   MR. BARTLE: I believe that's what I'm
12
13
               referring to, your Honor.
14
                    THE COURT: So you're suggesting he's
15
               outside the scope of an allowable area?
16
                   MR. BARTLE: Correct.
17
                    THE COURT: Okay. Read me the question,
18
               please.
19
                    (WHEREUPON, the requested portion was
20
               read by the reporter.)
21
                    THE COURT: Marketing is out of bounds;
22
               promotion is not.
23
                   Overruled.
24
                   I believe you actually answered the
25
       question already; did you?
```

```
80
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
              Α
                    Yes.
 3
                    THE COURT: The Court notes in the
               footnote there's a distinction between the
 4
               two that's subject to consideration.
 5
                    Go ahead.
 6
 7
                    MS. CONROY: Thank you, your Honor.
 8
                    Doctor, is there any empirical evidence
               Q.
 9
       to support the concept of pseudoaddiction?
10
                    No. In reviewing the literature there
11
       is no empirical evidence to support the concept of
12
       pseudoaddiction. No scientific evidence to support
13
       this concept.
14
                  You can put that document away, doctor,
15
       or both of those documents.
16
                    And for my next question, doctor, I
17
       would like you to assume that there is an Endo
18
       document entitled: Opioid Analgesic Advanced Sales
19
       Training from 2003, okay?
20
                    MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor.
21
               That's improper.
22
                    THE COURT: Let's see where it goes.
23
                    Oh, by the way, this document you're
24
               asking the witness to assume, has it been
25
               exchanged?
```

```
81
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                   MS. CONROY: Yes, your Honor.
 3
                    THE COURT: Exchanged in the course of
 4
               discovery?
 5
                   MS. CONROY: Yes, it was. And it was
               used by both Defendants and Plaintiffs in
 6
 7
               opening statements.
 8
                    THE COURT: Okay.
 9
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Your Honor, it's not in
10
              her report. It's not part of her referenced
11
              materials.
12
                    Your Honor ruled clearly last week that
13
               it's out of bounds. Those are your words.
14
                    THE COURT: This is a very late
15
              disclosure?
16
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Last night, 7:12.
17
                   THE COURT: Okay. Sustained.
18
                   MS. CONROY: Thank you, your Honor.
19
                    THE COURT: I don't know if you have to
20
              thank me for sustaining your objections, but
               I'll take it.
21
22
                   MS. CONROY: That's okay. We'll get to
23
               that document.
24
                   I would like to draw your attention to a
25
       document that is in evidence, P23771, and it's the
```

82 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 Oxymorphone learning system. 3 MR. HERSCHLEIN: Your Honor, at the appropriate time we would ask for the 4 limiting instruction that you gave on this 5 document last week, because we're coming back 6 7 to it. 8 THE COURT: Okay. You have to give me a 9 clue which limiting instruction I gave. MR. HERSCHLEIN: It has to do with the 10 11 AOD. 12 THE COURT: Oh, okay. 13 There was, members of the jury, there 14 was a prior dispute between Endo and the 15 State of New York which was resolved back in 16 2016. It was resolved by something called an 17 AOD, an assurance of discontinuance. That 18 thing that we call an AOD eliminated certain 19 product and certain conduct from 20 consideration, certainly going back in time. 21 As we progress I will, in all 22 probability, be giving you additional 23 instructions regarding that. The medication 24 is Opana, it was the subject of the dispute, 25 and that dispute was resolved. Resolved,

```
83
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               resolved with no admission of liability or
 3
               fault, all right, so keep that in mind.
 4
                    Was that the one I gave or close enough?
 5
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Pretty close, your
               Honor. Also Opana ER.
 6
 7
                    THE COURT: Okay, Opana ER, yes.
 8
                    MR. SHKOLNIK: Your Honor, the
 9
               instruction is supposed to be limited to the
10
               State and not the Counties.
11
                    THE COURT: By the way, the Counties,
12
               yeah. The Counties were not a party -- thank
13
               you for reminding me -- the Counties were not
14
               a party to that dispute, so whatever you may
15
               hear during Miss Conroy's examination, to the
16
               extent that it refers to this Opana ER and
17
               has some connection to that thing I called an
18
               AOD, it's not applicable to the State.
19
                    Go ahead.
20
               Q.
                   Doctor, if you would turn to page 25 of
21
       the Oxymorphone Risk Management Program.
22
                   And do you see where it says, Approach
23
       to selling OxyContin?
24
              Α
                   I do.
25
                   And who was the manufacturer of
```

```
84
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       OxyContin?
 3
              Α
                    Purdue Pharmaceuticals.
                    And which Defendant is writing this
 4
               Q.
 5
       document?
 6
                    This document is being written by Endo
 7
       Pharmaceuticals.
 8
               Q.
                    And it says: With the initial success
 9
       of OxyContin, Purdue put a lot of effort into
10
       marketing and promoting it. They promoted the use
11
       of OxyContin for both cancer and non-cancer pain,
       significantly increased their sales force and used
12
13
       multiple promotional approaches.
14
                    Do you see that?
15
                    Yes, I do.
              Α
16
                    And you're familiar with that from your
17
       research, correct?
18
               Α
                    Correct.
19
               Q.
                    If we could turn the page.
20
                    Endo references possible factors
21
       contributing to problems. Do you see that?
22
                    Yes, I do.
23
                    And it says: Once the abuse and
               Q.
24
       diversion problem with OxyContin became known, the
25
       reasons for contributing to the problem began to be
```

```
85
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       investigated; do you see that?
 3
              Α
                    Yes, I do.
                    And then down a little bit further it
 4
               Q.
 5
       talks about improper marketing; do you see that?
 6
              Α
                    Yes.
 7
                    You had read through this document?
               Q.
                    Yes, I have.
 8
              Α
 9
                    Was Endo aware of the consequences of
               Q.
10
       the misleading and false promotion by Purdue of its
11
       drug OxyContin?
12
                    MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor.
13
               I think there's a mill on corporate
14
               knowledge.
15
                    THE COURT: The way the question was put
16
               to you I'll sustain the objection.
17
                    You're asking what somebody was aware
18
               of, so even though it's an inanimate object,
19
               a corporation, you can't call for the
20
               operation of the mind of the entity.
21
                    Go ahead. I'm not precluding you, but
22
               I'm suggesting another way perhaps.
23
                    MS. CONROY: I'll rephrase, your Honor.
                    Were you able to determine from the
24
               0.
25
       pages 26 and 27, information that Endo was able to
```

86 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 determine from the problems that Purdue faced with 3 OxyContin? 4 THE COURT: Just say yes or no. 5 Α Yes. And what were they? 6 7 Well, it's clear from this document that 8 Endo Pharmaceuticals was well aware that Purdue was 9 cited by the FDA for things like advertisements in 10 journals, for suggesting that OxyContin could be 11 used as initial therapy or was often referred to as first line treatment. That it could be used in 12 13 older people. And importantly, that Purdue 14 overstated the benefits and minimized the addiction 15 risk of its products. 16 MR. HERSCHLEIN: Your Honor, I would 17 object and move to strike the answer which 18 began "it was clear that Endo was well 19 aware." It's directly contrary to the 20 ruling. 21 THE COURT: I'll strike -- that portion 22 of the answer is stricken. If you can go to 23 a specific -- in other words, when I strike 24 it, remove it from your mind, that portion of 25 the answer. You can go to the document.

```
87
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
                    MS. CONROY: I will, your Honor.
 2
 3
                    THE COURT: Thank you.
 4
                    Doctor, do you see where it says, under
               Q.
       Improper Marketing, there are explanations of what
 5
       Purdue was cited for by the FDA; do you see that?
 6
 7
                    Yes, I do see that.
 8
               Q.
                    And one was for several advertisement
 9
       violations between 2000 and 2003; do you see that?
10
              Α
                    Yes.
11
               Ο.
                    And this is an Endo document reciting
       this, correct?
12
13
                    That is correct.
              Α
14
                    And then they also talk about an
15
       advertisement in a medical journal that implies that
16
       OxyContin had been studied in all types of
17
       arthritis; do you see that?
18
                    That's correct.
                    Is arthritis a chronic pain -- something
19
               Q.
20
       that creates chronic pain?
21
              Α
                    Yes.
22
                    It also talks about OxyContin could be
23
       used as initial therapy in elderly patients without
       support for any of those plans; do you see that?
24
25
               Α
                    Yes, I do.
```

```
88
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                   And that is Endo reciting what it
 3
       understood Purdue to have done that was improper?
 4
              Α
                   Yes.
                    Then it says: A second more serious
 5
       citation was for journal ads.
 6
 7
                   What are journal ads?
 8
                    They're advertisements in medical
 9
       journals that doctors read.
                   (READING:) And those ads minimized the
10
11
       drug's risks and overstated its efficacy; do you see
12
       that?
13
                   Yes, I do.
              A
14
                   (READING:) Failed to present
15
       information from the boxed warning on potentially
16
       fatal risks and abuse potential and omitted
17
       information about limitations on its indication; do
18
       you see that?
19
              Α
                   Yes, I do.
20
                   When it talks about limitations on its
               Q.
       indication, what does that refer to?
21
22
                    That means they went beyond what the FDA
23
       said the drug could be used for.
24
               Ο.
                   And is that similar to what we were
25
       talking about when we were talking about Fentora and
```

89 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 Actig being indicated only for cancer, for 3 breakthrough cancer pain? 4 Yes, that's a similar example. 5 Then it says: Purdue's website for Q. OxyContin also had information inconsistent with its 6 7 labeling and lacked risk of information for use in 8 postoperative pain; do you see that? 9 Yes, I do. Α 10 And is it your opinion that this 11 information written by Endo in its Oxymorphone 12 document was known by Endo? 13 Yes. If they wrote it in their Α 14 document, they clearly knew it. 15 Then it talks about several videos Q. produced by Purdue were found to contain other 16 17 substantiated claims about patient's quality of 18 life, inability to perform activities of daily living while minimizing risks and claiming a low 19 20 likelihood of addiction; do you see that? Yes, I do. 21 A 22 It's your opinion Endo was aware of this 23 and aware that Purdue had been found to have 24 improperly marketed OxyContin by the FDA as a result 25 of some of these claims?

```
90
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor.
 3
                    THE COURT: Can I hear that question
               again. Can you read that back, please.
 4
 5
                    (WHEREUPON, the requested portion was
 6
               read by the reporter.)
 7
                    THE COURT: Overruled.
 8
                    You can answer.
 9
                    Yes, it's clear to me that Endo
10
       Pharmaceuticals was aware of what Purdue, what they
       wrote about it in their own document.
11
12
                    If you could turn to page 14 of the
              Q.
13
       document, the actual page 14. Could you read where
14
       I have highlighted. Can you see it?
15
                   Yes, I can see it. Do you want me to
16
       read it out loud?
17
                   Oh, read it out loud, I'm sorry.
              Q.
18
                    (READING:) Physicians can differentiate
19
       addiction from pseudoaddiction by speaking to the
20
       patient about his/her pain and increasing the
21
       patient's opioid dose to increase pain relief.
22
                    Pseudo-addictive behaviors, such as
23
       clock watching, counting down the time until the
24
       next dose will resolve when the pain is properly
25
       treated.
```

```
91
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    Are those statements false?
               Q.
 3
                    Those are false and misleading, yes.
               Α
 4
                    Doctor, in your opinion, did Endo jump
               Q.
       on the Purdue bandwagon with respect to the
 5
       promotion of its drug Oxymorphone?
 6
 7
                    MR. HERSCHLEIN: Object to the form,
 8
               your Honor.
 9
                    THE COURT: Sustained. Sustained.
10
                    Is the pseudoaddiction claim false
               Q.
11
       promotion, in your opinion?
12
                    Yes, it is.
13
               Q.
                    Thank you. You can put that one away.
14
                    Doctor, have all of the prescription
15
       opioids that we've talked about today been approved
16
       by the Food and Drug Administration, the FDA?
17
                    Yes, they have.
              Α
18
                    And have you assigned some
       responsibility for the opioid epidemic to the FDA?
19
20
                    Yes, I have.
              Α
21
               Q.
                    Are you an expert in FDA regulations?
22
               Α
                    No, I'm not.
23
                    Do you understand that Dr. Kessler,
               Q.
24
       former Commissioner of the FDA, is going to testify
25
       here?
```

92 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 Yes. That is my understanding. 3 Are you familiar with the labels that Q. 4 come with prescription opioids? 5 Α Yes. And do those labels include a risk of 6 Ο. 7 addiction and overdose? 8 Yes, they do. Α 9 Now, do doctors get more of their Q. 10 information about prescription opioids from labels 11 or from somewhere else, in your opinion? From somewhere else. Labels are not the 12 13 main source of information for doctors. It's all 14 the other things we talked about: continuing 15 medical education, key opinion leaders, journal 16 articles, the Joint Commission of Quality Measures 17 Guidlines, the Federation of State Medical Boards 18 tells them what they need to do, what their teachers tell them they need to do. 19 20 Q. Does the FDA sell opioids? 21 Α No, it does not. 22 Q. Do they profit -- does the FDA profit 23 from opioid sales? 24 Not as far as I know, no. 25 Q. Does the FDA make any promotional

```
93
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       statements about opioids?
 3
              Α
                    No.
 4
                    Do you draw any distinction between the
               Q.
       responsibility of the manufacturing Defendants,
 5
       Endo, Allergan and Teva on the one hand from the FDA
 6
 7
       on the other?
                    MR. BARTLE: Your Honor, I still make my
 8
 9
               objection based upon your prior ruling
10
               regarding scope of this witness' testimony.
11
                    THE COURT: Can I have the question
               back.
12
13
                    (WHEREUPON, the requested portion was
14
               read by the reporter.)
15
                    THE COURT: Overruled.
16
                    Just yes or no.
17
                    Yes, I do draw a distinction.
              Α
18
               Q.
                    And what is that distinction?
19
                    To me, the responsibility and obligation
20
       of certain opioid manufacturers promoting these
21
       products is much greater in regards to the opioid
22
       epidemic. Essentially, they were maximizing profits
23
       at the expense of public health and safety.
24
                    THE COURT: Ms. Conroy, the nature of
25
               your objection was, I think, was that you
```

```
94
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               mentioned three parties in connection with
 3
               one question, and I think it was suggested --
 4
                    MR. BARTLE: That was not the nature of
 5
               my objection.
                    THE COURT: It would have been a good
 6
 7
               one.
 8
                    MR. BARTLE: It wasn't the one I made.
 9
                    THE COURT: It would have been a good
10
               one. I think Saturday Night Live would say,
11
               Never mind...
12
                   Go ahead.
13
                   Dr. Lembke, I want you to assume that
               Q.
14
       each of the three Defendant manufacturers, Endo,
15
       Teva and Allergan in their opening statements --
16
                   MR. BARTLE: Your Honor, I would object
17
               to this question with regard to corporate
18
               separateness.
19
                   MS. CONROY: All right, I'll do it that
20
               way, that's fine.
21
                    THE COURT: Sustained.
22
                    I want you to assume that Endo in its
23
       opening statement by Mr. Herschlein argued that the
       New York State Department of Health itself repeated
24
25
       the message that addiction is rare in patients
```

```
95
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       taking opioids for pain.
 3
                   Does it surprise you that the New York
 4
       State Department of Health would make a statement
       like that: Addiction is rare?
 5
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor.
 6
 7
               I believe your Honor ruled last week this
 8
              witness is not to be commenting on attorney
 9
               statements.
10
                    THE COURT: No, no, I don't think I did.
11
               I certainly don't think I did. I customarily
              will allow a witness to be confronted with a
12
13
               suggestion that was made. However, I don't
14
               like the word "surprise."
15
                   MS. CONROY: Okay.
16
                   THE COURT: So sustained.
17
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Second objection, your
18
              Honor, is this is not in her report.
                   THE COURT: This is not what?
19
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: This is not within the
20
21
              witness' expert report.
22
                    THE COURT: Okay. Overruled. You can
23
               answer.
24
              Q. Let me rephrase --
                    THE COURT: Take the word surprise out.
25
```

```
96
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               Use a different word. There's got to be a
 3
               better one.
 4
                    Was that unexpected?
               Q.
 5
              Α
                   Yes.
                    And why is that?
 6
               Q.
 7
                    The fact that these misleading messages
 8
       appear in other places is evidence of the
       effectiveness of the promotional campaign.
 9
10
                    Certainly opioid manufacturers were able
11
       to infiltrate every layer of medicine and medicine
12
       regulatory bodies and policymakers in order to
13
       promote opioids as a class, which in turn increased
14
       sales of their opioid products.
15
                    And would your answer be the same if a
16
       statement was made by Teva or by Allergan?
17
                    Yes, it would.
              Α
18
               Q.
                    Thank you.
19
                    Now, we have looked at several
20
       promotional statements that were made by certain
21
       opioid Defendants, correct, over the last three
22
       days?
23
              Α
                    Yes, that's correct.
24
                    And were those messages, some of them,
25
       and I'll go into them specifically, misleading?
```

```
97
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
                    Yes.
 3
                    And one of them is addiction is rare; is
               Q.
 4
       that right?
 5
                    Well, the word "rare" itself is not, is
       not necessarily always used. Sometimes the word is
 6
 7
       uncommon or there's minimal risk as long as you're
 8
       prescribing to a patient with pain.
 9
                    Did you see promotional statements
               Q.
10
       talking about addiction is rare or uncommon or
11
       minimal risk or something along those lines when you
       looked at Allergan Finance, LLC documents?
12
13
                    Yes.
              Α
14
                    Did you see such misleading or false
15
       messages about addiction in Endo documents?
16
                    I have seen such statements in Endo
17
       documents, yes.
18
               Q.
                   And what about in Teva documents?
19
              A
                   Yes.
20
                    Pseudoaddiction, did you see misleading
               Q.
21
       messages about pseudoaddiction in Allergan Finance
22
       documents?
23
              Α
                    Yes.
24
               0.
                   In Endo documents?
25
               Α
                    Yes.
```

```
98
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
                   In Teva documents?
 2
 3
              A
                   Yes.
 4
                   And did you see statements about
 5
       dependence and that it's easy to deal with or
 6
       normal, things along that line?
 7
              Α
                   Yes.
 8
                    Did you see such statements in Allergan
       Finance documents?
 9
10
              Α
                   Yes.
                   In Endo documents?
11
              Ο.
12
              A
                   Yes.
13
                   In Teva documents?
              Q.
14
              Α
                   Yes.
15
                   Were all of those statements made --
16
       strike that.
17
                    Those statements, were they false?
18
                   False and misleading, yes.
                   MR. BARTLE: Your Honor, I would ask
19
20
               that that document be marked and we be
21
               provided copies of it.
22
                    THE COURT: That's fair.
23
                   MS. CONROY: That's fine.
24
                    THE COURT: Let's mark it now.
25
                    (WHEREUPON, Document was hereby marked
```

```
99
 1
                     Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
               as Plaintiffs' Demo 500 in evidence.)
 3
                    THE COURT: We'll see that copies are
 4
              distributed at the next break.
 5
                   MS. CONROY: We can make a copy now.
                   Doctor, in your opinion, is there a
 6
 7
       relationship between false promotional messages and
 8
       the increased sale of opioids?
 9
                   Yes.
              Α
10
              Ο.
                   And what is that relationship?
11
                   MR. HERSCHLEIN: Objection, your Honor.
               This is footnote 8.
12
                    THE COURT: The document is right in
13
14
               front of me as we speak. It's the
15
              question -- I'll sustain the objection. I'm
16
              not precluding you, but if you don't have it,
17
               just look at footnote number 8 in the
               November 12th 2020 short form order.
18
19
                   MS. CONROY: Your Honor, I'm referring
20
               to promotional messages in this question.
21
                    THE COURT: Make it promotional.
22
              Q.
                    Is there a relationship between
23
       promotional messages and the sale of opioids?
24
                    MR. HERSCHLEIN: Your Honor --
25
                    THE COURT: I think the sales aspect of
```

1	Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 100
2	the question is the basis of the objection,
3	so I'll sustain it, but there's something
4	other than sales between
5	MS. CONROY: Sure.
6	Q. Is there a relationship between
7	promotional messages and physicians prescribing
8	opioids?
9	A Yes.
10	MR. HERSCHLEIN: Your Honor, the
11	objection is there's not been a foundation
12	laid as required by footnote 8 for the
13	distinction between marketing and promotion.
14	The Defendants' position is that there is no
15	distinction.
16	MR. PRESNAL: With all due respect -
17	THE COURT: Do me a favor, put your mask
18	down when you talk to me.
19	MR. PRESNAL: Sorry, Judge. With all
20	due respect, she has examined this confluence
21	between this massive marketing campaign and
22	the fact that there was a massive increase in
23	the prescribing of opioids as described it
24	this paradigm shift in the treatment of
25	chronic pain.

101 1 Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke 2 MR. KNAPP: Your Honor, again, I would 3 object to the colloquy as inappropriate. 4 THE COURT: Ms. Conroy, you may seek 5 testimony between what we've seen and quantity, all right. 6 7 Doctor, have you seen a relationship 8 between the promotional messages that you reviewed 9 and the quantity of opioids in New York State, Long 10 Island, or the Counties? 11 THE COURT: Just yes or no. 12 Α Yes. 13 And what is that relationship? Q. 14 The promotional messages targeting 15 doctors and other healthcare institutions led to 16 increased prescribing of opioids, which led to a 17 greater supply of opioids in the community. 18 Q. And what did that lead to? 19 That led to more people becoming 20 addicted to opioids, more people overdosing on 21 opioids and more people dying from opioids. 22 Ο. And where did that take us? 23 Those individuals, many of them, 24 progressed to heroin and illicit fentanyl. 25 Q. And is there a term for that, that

```
102
 1
                    Continued Direct/Dr. Lembke
 2
       progression to heroin or illicit fentanyl?
 3
                    Yes. It's called the gateway phenomenon
 4
       or gateway hypothesis where individuals start out
 5
       with pain pills prescribed by their doctor or
       perhaps pain pills that were prescribed to somebody
 6
 7
       else in the family, which they took from the
 8
       medicine cabinet for the right reasons, and then the
       individual ultimately gets addicted to the opioid
 9
10
       and then looks for cheaper and more available
11
       sources over time, which is illicit sources like
12
       heroin and illicit fentanyl.
13
                    Doctor, you call that what?
              Q.
14
                    The gateway theory or the gateway
15
       phenomenon.
16
                    Is that your term or do others use that
17
       as well?
18
                    That's a term that I have used, as well
       as -- and others have used that term as well.
19
20
                   MS. CONROY:
                                 Thank you, Doctor. I have
21
              no further questions at this time.
22
                    THE COURT: Mr. Shkolnik?
23
                    MR. SHKOLNIK: Your Honor, I'm going to
24
              have about 45 minutes to an hour. Could we
25
               take our -- I could condense it if we took
```

```
1
                                                           103
                         In Re: Opioid Trial
 2
               our lunch break at 12:15 or 12:30, that would
 3
               really help, unless the Court wants me to
               stop. I will be happy to do it either way.
 4
 5
                    THE COURT: That's okay. Members of the
 6
               jury, are you hungry?
 7
                    We'll break for lunch. We'll resume at
 8
               1:30. Don't discuss the case among
9
               yourselves or with anyone else until the
10
               appropriate time.
                    Thank you.
11
12
                    MS. CONROY: Thank you.
13
                    THE COURT OFFICER: All rise. Jury
14
               exiting.
15
                    THE COURT: See everybody at 1:30.
16
               Thank you.
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

1	In Re: Opioid Trial 104
2	<u>CERTIFICATION</u>
3	
4	I, Stephanie Casagrande Hague, CSR, RPR,
5	an Official Court Reporter of the State of
6	New York, County of Suffolk, do hereby
7	certify that the above is a true and accurate
8	transcription of my stenographic notes taken
9	in the above-entitled action on this day;
10	Furthermore, photocopies made of this
11	transcript by any party cannot be certified
12	by me to be true and accurate.
13	Therefore, only those copies bearing an
14	original signature in blue ink are official
15	certified copies.
16	
17	
18	STEPHANIE CASAGRANDE HAGUE, CSR, RPR
19	Official Court Reporter
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

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